Overview

Psychology is a discipline of both scientific research and applied practice. As a science, psychology is concerned with the study of behaviour and its underlying mental and neural processes. Students gain an integrated and comprehensive education in main discipline areas, including developmental, social, cognitive, biological, physiological and abnormal psychology. The program also develops research methods skills. Psychology has many areas of cutting edge interdisciplinary research and application and students have an option to pursue individual interests, choosing electives from a range of specialist areas, including psychology and law; psychology and work; development disorders; psychopathology; health psychology, language, cognitive science, neuroscience and others.

Psychology has many areas of application, especially in clinical, correctional, counselling, educational, and organisational settings. In addition, people with training in psychology pursue careers in academic research, health research, developmental disabilities and rehabilitation, ergonomics, occupational health and safety, personnel selection, training, and management, vocational guidance, and marketing.

The program allows students to complete an APAC-accredited undergraduate sequence in psychology across three years. The program is designed to allow students to complete a complementary major (in a related discipline where there is a professional and/or academic rationale that supports the proposed combination). Complementary majors available outside of the Faculty of Science include marketing, human resource management, management, criminology, linguistics and philosophy. From the Faculty of Science, students may choose a complementary major in neuroscience or vision science. Upon completion of this program students may choose to complete an additional fourth year program in psychology (Honours), subject to satisfying the entry requirements (refer to the Pathways section).

The basic rules for the degree are set out under the Program Structure section of
this Handbook. Students must ensure that they complete a minimum of 78 units of credit (UoC) in Psychology, a combination of PSYCxxxx core and PSYC3xxx elective courses (as defined under Program Structure). The remaining UoC may comprise of courses offered by the Faculty of Science or any other Faculty. Please consult the School of Psychology for detailed definitions of complementary majors and their appropriate program structures (refer to the Sample Programs section).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Faculty</strong></th>
<th>Faculty of Science</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Campus</strong></td>
<td>Kensington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Study Level</strong></td>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Typical duration</strong></td>
<td>3 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Delivery Mode</strong></td>
<td>Face-to-face</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Intake Period</strong></td>
<td>Term 1, Term 3</td>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Academic Calendar</strong></td>
<td>3+ Calendar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Minimum Units of Credit</strong></td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Award type</strong></td>
<td>Bachelors Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Award(s)</strong></td>
<td>Bachelor of Psychological Science - BPsychSc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UAC Code</strong></td>
<td>429800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CRICOS Code</strong></td>
<td>072206A</td>
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</table>
Learning Outcomes

1. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in the core topics of psychology.

2. Demonstrate knowledge of and ability to evaluate and apply research methods in psychology.

3. Develop and apply critical thinking skills that use logic, evidence and psychological science in understanding human behaviour and mental processes.

4. Demonstrate an understanding of appropriate values and ethics in psychology.

5. Develop effective communication, interpersonal and leadership skills.

6. Apply knowledge and skills of psychology in a manner that is reflective, culturally appropriate and sensitive to the diversity of individuals.

Graduate Capabilities:

For more information on Graduate Capabilities, please click on this link.
**Program Structure**

Students must complete 144 UOC as a standalone program.

1. At least 78 UOC of Psychology courses
2. 54 UOC of Free Electives (see Complementary majors, below)
3. 12 UOC General Education courses

**Complementary majors**

In addition to their core study in Psychology, students may choose to use their Free Electives to complete one of the complementary majors listed below.

Please Note: Students wishing to undertake a complementary major in Neuroscience or Vision Science, or more than one major for their program, should be aware that it may not be possible to complete their program within 144 UOC (i.e., within three years of full-time study). This may involve additional time and cost and might have visa implications for International Students.

If you intend to do more than one major for this program, please consult the Program Authority (School of Psychology).

Students are encouraged to declare their major/s as soon as possible.

**MAJOR:**

- **CRIMC1 | 60 UOC**
  Criminology

- **LINGC1 | 60 UOC**
  Linguistics

- **MARKA1 | 48 UOC**
  Marketing

- **MGMTA1 | 48 UOC**
  Management

- **MGMTH1 | 48 UOC**
  Human Resource Management
Level 1 Core Courses

Students must take 18 UOC of the following courses.

**PSYC1001** | 6 UOC
Psychology 1A

**PSYC1011** | 6 UOC
Psychology 1B

**PSYC1111** | 6 UOC
Measuring Mind and Behaviour

Level 2 Core Courses

Students must take 30 UOC of the following courses.

**PSYC2001** | 6 UOC
Research Methods 2

**PSYC2061** | 6 UOC
Social and Developmental Psychology

**PSYC2071** | 6 UOC
Perception and Cognition

**PSYC2081** | 6 UOC
Learning and Physiological Psychology
Level 3 Core Courses

Students must take 12 UOC of the following courses.

PSYC3001 | 6 UOC
Research Methods 3

PSYC3011 | 6 UOC
Research and Applications of Psychology

Level 3 Prescribed Electives

Students must take at least 18 UOC of the following Level 3 Psychology courses (at least 6 UOC from List A and 6 UOC from List B).

PSYC3051 | 6 UOC
Physiological Psychology

PSYC3121 | 6 UOC
Social Psychology

PSYC3211 | 6 UOC
Cognitive Science

PSYC3221 | 6 UOC
Vision and Brain

PSYC3241 | 6 UOC
Psychobiology of Memory and Motivation

PSYC3301 | 6 UOC
Psychology and Law
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Credit Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYC3311</td>
<td>6 UOC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language and Cognition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC3331</td>
<td>6 UOC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Psychology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC3341</td>
<td>6 UOC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Developmental Psychology</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC3361</td>
<td>6 UOC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology Research Internship</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC3371</td>
<td>6 UOC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multivariate Data Analysis for Psychology</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Level 3 Prescribed Electives List A**

In choosing their Level 3 Prescribed Electives, students must select at least one course (6 UOC) from List A.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Credit Units</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSYC3051</td>
<td>6 UOC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physiological Psychology</td>
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<td>6 UOC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language and Cognition</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC3371</td>
<td>6 UOC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Level 3 Prescribed Electives List B

In choosing their Level 3 Prescribed Electives, students must select at least one course (6 UOC) from List B.

**PSYC3121 | 6 UOC**  
Social Psychology

**PSYC3301 | 6 UOC**  
Psychology and Law

**PSYC3331 | 6 UOC**  
Health Psychology

**PSYC3341 | 6 UOC**  
Developmental Psychology

**PSYC3361 | 6 UOC**  
Psychology Research Internship

**Free electives**

Students who do not choose to complete a complementary major complete 54 UOC of Free Electives.

If a student uses their Free Electives to complete a complementary major, the remaining Free Elective UOC to be completed will vary depending on the major chosen, as follows.

Majors in:

- Criminology, Linguistics or Philosophy: 12 UOC of Free Electives.
- Neuroscience: 0 UOC of Free Electives.

GEN# coded courses can only be used to fulfil the General Education requirement of the program (i.e., they cannot be used to fulfil the Free Elective requirement). Any exceptions to these rules must be approved by the Associate Dean (Academic
Programs) or nominee.

any course

**General Education**

Students must complete 12 UOC of General Education courses.

This requirement is satisfied for students who complete one of the optional complementary majors from outside the Faculty of Science.

Students not taking a complementary major must choose GEN# coded courses (excluding those with a GENS prefix), courses substituted for General Education, or a combination of both to fulfil the General Education requirement of this program.

any General Education course

**Excluded General Education Courses**

Students may not undertake any of the following excluded courses.

any Computer Science course

any Food Technology course

any course offered by School of Medical Sciences

any course offered by Faculty of Science

any General Education - Faculty of Science course

**Maximum Level 1 UOC**

No more than 72 UOC of Level 1 courses (including 12 UOC General Education) will be counted towards the degree.

any level 1 course

**Level 2 Maturity Requirements**
Students must complete at least 24 UOC of Level 1 courses before enrolling in Level 2 courses.

Please Note: Level 2 course PSYC2101 Assessment, Personality & Psychopathology may be taken in Term 3 of Year 1.

any level 2 course

Level 3 Maturity Requirements

Students must have completed 72 UOC before taking any of the following courses.

any level 3 course

Sample Programs

To access sample program(s), please visit:

Sample Science Programs

Enrolment Disclaimer

Unless advised otherwise by your program authority, you should follow the rules for the handbook for the year you commenced your program. You are also responsible for ensuring you enrol in courses according to your program requirements. myUNSW enrolment checks that you have met enrolment requirements such as pre-requisites for individual courses but not that a course will count towards your program requirements.
Related Programs

Related Double Degree Programs

Bachelor of Psychological Science - **BP PsychSc**
Bachelor of Laws - **LLB**

**4722 Psychological Science / Law**

Faculty: Faculty of Law, Faculty of Science
Campus: Kensington
Units of Credit: 240
Typical Duration: 5 Years

[Read More](#)

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Related Programs

**Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) - **BP Psych(Hons)**

**3632 Psychology (Honours)**

Faculty: Faculty of Science
Campus: Kensington
Units of Credit: 192
Typical Duration: 4 Years

[Read More](#)
**Program Requirements**

**Recognition of Prior Learning**

UNSW Students may be granted Recognition for Prior Learning (RPL) which may or may not reduce the amount of learning required to achieve a degree at UNSW. Generally, RPL is only granted based on the completion of tertiary-level studies, but in exceptional circumstances may also include non-formal or informal learning such as professional experience. RPL will not be granted based on partly completed tertiary courses. All applications for RPL at UNSW are subject to UNSW Recognition of Prior Learning (Coursework Programs) Policy and Procedures. Students seeking credit for courses completed at another university are required to submit documentary evidence (course outlines, academic transcripts) to support their application, and to nominate the course(s) for which they seek credit. In addition, the following conditions apply for all UNSW Science programs (including the Science component of dual award programs): Specified course credit, i.e. credit granted for an exact or near exact equivalence to a course at UNSW, will not be granted when more than 7 years has elapsed from the successful completion of the course (or other learning) and the student’s commencement in the Science program. Where this time period is shorter it will be stipulated in the individual rules for the relevant program. Unspecified course credit (e.g. General Education or free electives) will not be granted when more than 10 years has elapsed from the successful completion of the course (or other learning) and the student’s commencement in the Science program. Students may only receive credit of up to a maximum of 50% of the coursework component of their Science program, excluding Honours. For most undergraduate programs this will be 72 UOC. For dual award programs that include a Science component, it will be a maximum of 50% of the Science component of the dual degree, excluding Honours. Credit for the other program will be assessed by the Faculty that administers that program. Applications for RPL will only be assessed for students who have accepted a place to study in a UNSW Science program. Students must formally apply for RPL unless they become a UNSW student as part of a formal Articulation Agreement. Applications for RPL should be made as early as possible in the student’s program. Students who are readmitted into a Science program after a period of unapproved absence or deferment, or after exclusion, will not necessarily retain credit for all units completed at UNSW prior to the absence if the date of completion of the units of study is greater than the 7 and 10-year rules outlined in points 1 and 2 above. In these cases, the credit retained will be decided by the Associate Dean (Academic Programs) in consultation (when necessary) with the Program and/or Course Authority.
Progression Requirements

Progression rules are in accordance with university policy.
For more information on university policy on progression requirements please visit Academic Progression.
Pathways

Honours Programs

Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours) - BPsychSc(Hons)
4518 Psychological Science (Honours)

Faculty: Faculty of Science
Campus: Kensington
Units of Credit: 48
Typical Duration: 1 Years

Read More
Professional Outcomes

Professional Recognition
Enrolled students are eligible to become a Student Subscriber of the Australian Psychological Society (www.psychology.org.au).

Career Opportunities
Psychologist in clinical, correctional, counselling, educational, organisational settings; academic research; developmental disabilities and rehabilitation; ergonomics; health research; marketing; work health and safety; personnel selection; training; management; vocational guidance. Additional examples include roles in public affairs, education, business, sales, service industries, health and biological sciences.
Recognition of Achievement

University Medal

The University Medal is awarded to recognise outstanding academic performance by a bachelor degree student in line with the University Medal Policy and University Medal Procedure.

Award of Pass with Distinction

The Award of Pass with Distinction is awarded when a weighted average mark (WAM) of at least 75% has been achieved and at least 50% of the requirements of the award completed at UNSW. All eligible programs will award Pass with Distinction except in special circumstances where approval of Academic Board has been given for a program to opt out.

For more information, please visit:

Current Students Pass With Distinction
Additional Information

Science Handbook Rules and Editions

Students must follow the program rules and requirements in the UNSW Handbook published in the year they commence their studies with the Faculty of Science.

Students who transfer from another UNSW Faculty into Science (for example, from a Bachelor of Arts into a Bachelor of Science) must follow the program rules and requirements in the UNSW Handbook published in the year of their transfer.

Students who are readmitted to UNSW after a period of unapproved absence or deferment, or after exclusion, must satisfy the program rules in the Handbook published in the year of their readmission. In addition, these students may be subject to restrictions on which courses taken at UNSW may be counted on their return. In some cases, students returning from an unapproved absence may be required to repeat courses. See the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) section above for more details. Students who take approved leave or deferment will follow the Handbook for the year of their original commencement unless otherwise approved by the Associate Dean (Academic Programs).
Program Fees

At UNSW fees are generally charged at course level and therefore dependent upon individual enrolment and other factors such as student's residency status. For generic information on fees and additional expenses of UNSW programs, click on one of the following:

- Domestic Students
- Commonwealth Supported Students
- International Students
Pre-2019 Handbook Editions

Access past handbook editions (2018 and prior)

Pre-2019 Handbook Editions
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Authorised by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)
CRICOS Provider Code 00098G
ABN: 57 195 873 179